## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A label making system that includes a computer with a label making program and a label meter program. The label making program has a positional palette feature that permits the assignment of an attribute scheme to character positions of a multi-position label independent of the alphanumeric content of the positions. Other features include an ad hoc job that permits the formation of a plurality of unrelated labels in a single job, but yet is versatile enough to include labels that have some ordered relationship. Another feature is the ability to manipulate the bar code position and even to suppress the bar code. The labels can be printed serial by row or serial by column of a label stock. The label meter program automatically keeps track of a user's label stock inventory.